STAY HOME
STAY SAFE
SIDDHARTA

STAR OF MYSORE

OUR EVENING DAILY

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MYSURU Friday 3rd April 2020
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Visit: www.starofmysore.com

REDUCE YOUR RISK OF
CORONAVIRUS
INFECTION
Clean hands with soap and water or alcohol-based hand rub
Cover nose and mouth when coughing with tissue or flexed elbow
Avoid close contact with anyone with cold or flu-like symptoms
SOUTHERN STAR

Nizamuddin Markaz

63 from Mysuru QUARANTINED

Police enforce *nakabandi* to prevent free movement

Traffic Police question motorists at Udayagiri Circle this morning.

Mysuru, Apr. 3 (RK&BCT)- The Mysuru District Administration has successfully mounted efforts and has tracked down nearly 63 people who were among the 342 from the State who attended the religious congregation of Tablighi Jamaat in Delhi between Mar. 8 and Mar. 20.

The gathering had hosted 9,000 people including 1,500 foreigners and the event has now turned out to be the hotbed of COVID-19 spread in the country. Thus far, the congregation has been identified as being responsible for 358 infections and nine deaths. Many States in India are racing to search for participants and their footprints and Mysuru administration too stepped up efforts to trace them.

14-day quarantine

Speaking to *Star of Mysore* this morning, Mysuru Deputy Commissioner Abhiram G. Sankar said that all the 63 Mysureans who had attended the Nizamuddin Markaz have been identified and have been placed under 14-day quarantine at several places in Mysuru including hostels, lodges and the COVID-19 Hospital (District Hospital) on KRS Road. Samples and swabs will be collected and tested after 14 days and only then it can be ascertained if they are infected or not.

The barricaded J.K. Grounds signal light road.

"They have been placed under quarantine as per the directives of Centre and State Government. **Some residents are opposing their quarantine in lodges and hostels near their homes. There have been incidents of protests and a law and order situation. I appeal to them that even the quarantined persons are human beings with families.** We request support from local residents," the DC appealed.

(See QUARANTINED on page 6)

Light candles, diyas to dispel darkness: PM

Switch off lights for 9 minutes at 9 pm on Apr. 5

New Delhi, Apr. 3 (UNI)- Prime Minister Narendra Modi this morning urged people to light candles, lamps or mobile flashlights at 9 pm on Sunday, Apr. 5, for 9 minutes to "raise the great power of 130 crore Indians" and make everyone feel that no one is alone during the Coronavirus lockdown.

"Please switch off your lights at homes on Sunday, light up candles, torch or mobile flashlights on your balconies for 9 minutes," PM Modi said through a video message.

This is PM Modi's first message following the announcement of the 21-day lockdown on Mar. 24. Modi has addressed the nation twice since the pandemic became a cause for serious concern in India.

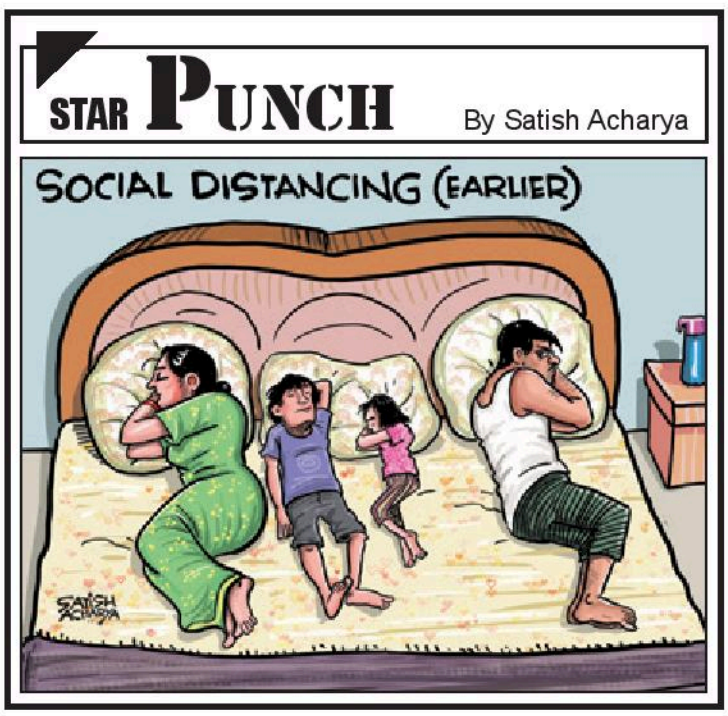
In his first address, he called for a one-day Janata Curfew and in the second address on Mar. 24, he announced a national lockdown to contain the spread of COVID-19.

"The lockdown against COVID-19 pandemic completes 9 days today. The way you all have come together in this time of crisis is commendable. The way Indians have shown how to stay indoors have inspired the entire world. Other nations are following India's lockdown example. I want to tell you all that nobody is alone in this. All of us are together in this," Modi said.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

"We must all go through this darkness together. Those who are most affected by this are the poor and marginalised. To overcome this darkness, **we must all unite to spread the light and make this darkness of Coronavirus meet the light we all spread,"** the Prime Minister said.

"On Sunday, at 9 pm, turn off all the lights in your house and each person should light candles or switch on torch of their mobile in their balconies. By doing so, we will stand united, we will show that no one is alone in this. The most important thing in all this is to do so within the confinement of our homes and balconies. **At no point of time in this exercise should we come out on the streets. Please remember that maintaining social distancing is the most important thing to do,"** Modi said.



STAR OF MYSORE

"We believe comment is free, but facts are sacred."
Editor: M. GOVINDE GOWDA, M.A.
Editor-in-Chief K.B. Ganapathy B.A.; B.L.
Mysuru, Friday 3rd April 2020

Administration *amends* *Aam janata* adjusts

The issue of providing good governance in the country has just turned tougher than in normal times, thanks to the pandemic in almost all countries across the world. Invoking the nation's Constitution, making pointed references to the multitude of provisions stated in the script, also has posed problems even to the experts in legal practice, thanks to the hundred-odd *amendments* to the Constitution, passed by the nation's Parliament. Complying with the rules and regulations not being the cup of tea as it were on the part of large sections of the country's masses, the task of providing good governance is a challenge for the Government of the day.

The contemporary scenario is ample proof of the yawning gap between the administration and *aam janata* in the matter of achieving even a semblance of success in that task. Even as the authorities are in overdrive laying down the many simple-to-practice ground rules for checking the adverse impact of the virus COVID-19, the country's masses, including the urban literati, is palpably showing no signs of falling in line. The law-keeping machinery as well as the healthcare workforce have virtually broken their backs in ensuring control over the unrelenting menace.

The outreach of information concerning the symptoms of the virus-caused afflictions, particularly breathing difficulty and also the points where medical help can be availed has been successful to an admirable extent, but the rural population is facing a big handicap due to high-level of illiteracy and paucity of communication means.

The foremost amendment to the system of *penalising* those found violating the various laws of the land is resorting to *appeals* by the functionaries in the Government, including the Police force to comply with measures that are anti-virus and pro-people. The next amendment comprises relaxation of the existing rules concerning admission of children into the schools for the coming academic year and collection of fees from the parents on various counts. The other measures such as wearing proper quality face mask, washing hands with clean water and soap, ensuring social distancing of minimum one meter both at home and outside, not to panic and hoard grocery and other necessities of life, practicing home quarantine voluntarily, shutting down all shrines and so on are all extra-Constitutional, being *amendments* of sorts not needing Parliament's nod.

The various habits of the masses, including the literate sections that are conducive to the spread of the virus are in a long list. Wanton pollution of living spaces, crowding in locations of entertainment, spitting on the streets, ignoring even elementary practice of maintaining hygiene, neglect of personal cleanliness and so on have become habits that need to be given up forthwith. That amounts to a huge adjustment by the *aam janata*. The bottomline is *adjust or perish!*

EDITOR'S BOTTOMLINE

Those such as cab drivers, restaurant waiters, mall workers, domestic help, itinerant retailers and other casual job workers are either already without jobs and incomes or will soon find themselves in that position. It may not be a bad idea to consider cash transfers of a fixed amount to these vulnerable sections. There are 33 crore accounts under the Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojana that can be leveraged for this purpose. There is also an efficient Public Distribution System prevalent in most States through which the beneficiaries can be identified for a cash handout.

— Raghuvir Srinivasan in The Hindu

NEWS SPARKLERS

'Water Hater' would rather dehydrate than drink water

New York: A New York woman who claims she hates drinking plain water has ended up in the ER several times with severe dehydration because she simply refused to put water in her mouth.

Lori Cheek is what is known as a 'water hater,' a person who hates both the taste of water and the 'slimy' sensation of it going down her throat. She is fully aware of the risks of not drinking enough water, as she has experienced severe dehydration more than once, but she would still rather not drink anything at all than have a sip of water. In her day to day life, Cheek relies on hydration tablets, Crystal Light and other flavored drinks to stay hydrated, but she won't touch water.

Artist paints simple stones as charming figurines

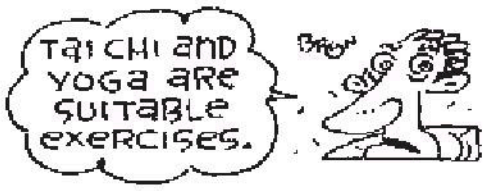
Tokyo: Akie Nakata describes herself as a 'stone artist,' but there is more to her craft than simply painting river stones into familiar animal shapes. Every one of her pieces goes through a complex process that begins with choosing the right stone and continues with bringing out the life in it.

The Japanese artist, who goes by Akie on social media, has a very special way of looking at stones. While most of us choose to ignore them, she considers them similar to living organisms, in that there is a rich history behind them and they all have a story to tell. She is just someone enabling that story to come out with her paintbrush.

She believes that every stone she chooses in turn chooses her, giving her the ok to paint what she sees on it. Akie feels that her art is a collaborative effort of hers and the stones', and she always shows her respect by never altering or processing a stone to better suit her design.

HEALTH CAPSULE by Bron Smith

Can exercise improve my memory?



Researchers at UC Irvine have revealed that even a short 10-minute exercise can yield measurable cognitive benefits. Using magnetic resonance imaging, researchers found increased connectivity between the Hippocampus and the cortical areas of the brain following brief exercise.

**Health Capsules is not intended to be of a diagnostic nature.*

Penor Rinpoche Charity Foundation donates Rs.10,00,000 to CM's Relief Fund

The Chief of Namdroling Monastery (the Golden Temple), Gyang Khang Tulku Rinpoche and Tsering Choedhar, Managing Trustee of Penor Rinpoche Charity Foundation handing over the cheque to Mysuru District in-charge Minister V. Somanna yesterday as MP Pratap Simha and SP C.B. Ryshyanth look on.

Mysuru / Bylakuppe Apr. 3 (Rajesh)- The current situation of the COVID-19 pandemic that is infecting and killing thousands of lives in the world is very disheartening. The Chief of Namdroling Monastery (the Golden Temple), Gyang Khang Tulku Rinpoche and Mugsang Kuchen Rinpoche, along with all the monks and nuns, have extend their deepest gratitude to the Prime Minister of India and the Central and State Governments for working day and night taking every possible precautionary measure to protect the people.

The selfless healthcare workers who are endangering themselves for the benefit of others, working tirelessly every day are truly the real heroes, they said in a press release and thanked them for their sacrifices in the fight against the spread of COVID-19.

As a gesture of utmost appreciation and to support the hard work and dedication of the respective State Governments in striving hard to stop the spread of this virus and to provide state-of-the-art medical treatment, they donated Rs.10,00,000 (ten lakh) to CM's Relief Fund in order to sustain the noble cause of providing accessible health service to all, according to a press release from Bylakuppe's Penor Rinpoche Charity Foundation Managing Trustee.

Really...?

- *An ant's sense of smell is stronger than a dog.*
- *It is possible to lead a cow up stairs but not down.*
- *Frogs cannot swallow with their eyes open.*
- *A cat's lower jaw cannot move sideways.*
- *The bullfrog is the only animal that never sleeps.*

LAUGHTER THE BEST MEDICINE

Question: ***Which is the longest word in English language?***

Answer: ***"Smiles" because there is a mile between its first and last letters!***

Today's Currency Rate

1 US Dollar	= Rs. 76.10
1 UK Pound	= Rs. 93.89
1 UAE Dirham	= Rs. 20.72
1 Euro	= Rs. 82.12

VOICE OF THE READER

Kudos to Railways' healthcare service

Sir,

The recent move by Railways to chip-in to transport essential goods across the country is highly appreciated. The move comes at a critical time when the entire nation is witnessing a lockdown owing to Coronavirus outbreak hampering normal life and its activities.

The Railways otherwise has been at the forefront in the nation-building exercise even in past instances such as natural calamities and disasters.

As also the recent move to convert its Rail coaches into a life-saving COVID-ready hospital wards with ventilators shows the preparedness and quick thinking by the Railway administration.

The Railways thus has set up an example to lead from the front during such a crisis and one remains indebted for such a humanitarian act to save precious lives of the people and fight against Corona pandemic.

Further the Railways should formulate a strategy to create specific trains by earmarking separate coaches also, that caters to the nation's healthcare needs as and when the exigency arises.

—Varun Dambal
on e-mail

Bengaluru
2.4.2020

Nominated as Jury in International Award Panel

Mysuru, Apr. 3- Dr. Renu Agrawal, former Chief Scientist and Rural Programme Co-ordinator from Central Food Technological Research Institute (CFTRI), Mysuru, has been nominated as a Jury Member in the Selection Committee of I-Women Global Awards ceremony to be held in September, 2020. She will be judging under "Science and Innovation", with the theme "Care for Farmers."

Dr. Renu Agrawal

It is an International programme designed to recognise women who have left an indelible mark and created a deep social impact through exceptional work. The candidates are participating from 25 countries.

Dr. Renu is presently a member in many National Advisory Committees to the Department of Science and Technology, Government of India and also with the Government of Karnataka for Sustainable Development Goals. *Karamveer Chakra* Dr. Renu is the recipient of Abdul Kalam Life Time Achievement Award among others.

DRDO develops bio-suits for health professionals

New Delhi, Apr. 3- The Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) on Thursday displayed a bio-suit it has developed to safeguard health professionals on the frontline of combating COVID-19.

"The suit has been prepared with the help of the industry and subjected to rigorous testing for textile parameters as well as protection against synthetic blood," a DRDO statement said adding that it had used a sealant used in submarines to enhance the safety of bio-suit. DRDO said it has transferred the technology to a vendor who has a manufacturing capacity of 7,000 bio-suits per day. Another vendor is being brought in and efforts are on to ramp up the capacity of 15,000 suits per day.

The DRDO is making all efforts to ensure that these suits are produced in large numbers and serve as a robust line of defence for the medics, paramedics and other personnel.

The DRDO has prepared a special sealant as an alternative to seam sealing tape based on the sealant used in submarine applications. Presently, bio-suits prepared using this glue for seam sealing by an industry partner has cleared test at Southern India Textile Research Association (SITRA), Coimbatore. This can be a game-changer for the textile industry.

Mysuru-based Dr. Nima Poovaya-Smith appointed as Deputy Lieutenant of West Yorkshire County in UK

By C.P. Belliappa

Dr. Nima Poovaya-Smith, who hails from Mysuru, was conferred the prestigious Order of the British Empire (OBE) in 2016 for her contribution in the field of Arts and Museums.

Recently, Nima was bestowed with another unique honour. She has been appointed as one of the Deputy Lieutenants (DL) of West Yorkshire County in the United Kingdom (UK).

Deputy Lieutenants assist the Lord-Lieutenant in carrying out his role as the Queen's representative. Historically, the duty of the Lord-Lieutenant used to be in organising the county's militia! In 1871, the Lieutenant's responsibility over the local militia was removed.

The current Lord-Lieutenant of West Yorkshire is Sir Ed Anderson. The responsibilities of the Lieutenancy includes making arrangements for Royal visits to the county and for hosting those visits; representing the Monarch at a wide range of events across West Yorkshire; presenting British Empire Medals and other awards; advising on submissions for honours nominations; submitting nominations for Royal Garden Parties; and maintaining close links with regional armed forces. He is assisted by the Vice-Lord-Lieutenant, the Clerk to the Lieutenancy and a team of Deputy Lieutenants.

Nima's father Ammanichanda Poovaya and mother Biddanda Muthie Poovaya (my mother's sister) were in Belgaum for many years and that's where she and her siblings had their early education. The family settled in Mysuru and Nima earned her Ph.D in English literature from the University of Mysore under the mentorship of well-known academician Prof. C.D. Narasimhaiah (late). She was also a student of Prof U.R. Ananthamurthy (late).

Dr. Nima Poovaya-Smith with the insignia of Office of Deputy Lieutenant of West Yorkshire.

In 1981 Nima went to the University of Leeds, UK, on a scholarship for post-doctoral studies. Nima is married to Paul Smith, who besides being a Sociologist specialising in the Sociology of Knowledge, is an authority on the Theosophical Society founded by Colonel Olcott and Madame Blavatsky.

Nima has been actively involved in collecting art and in curating museums. One of her assignments was collecting rare textiles for Cartwright Hall Museum, Bradford. Various noteworthy collections are currently being celebrated at the '2 Temple Place' Gallery in London (till 19th April 2020). Seven top women collectors of textiles for public collections are being showcased and Nima's contemporary South Asian collection is one of them.

For more details visit website: *https://twotempleplace.org/exhibitions/unbound/*

Nima is the Founder-Director of Alchemy Anew, an organisation involved in confluence of cultures. Currently, she is the Senior Visiting Research Fellow, School of Fine Arts, History of Arts and Cultural Studies, University of Leeds.

Dr. Nima Poovaya-Smith with her nephew Dr. Kodimanianda Ajit Belliappa in front of Yinka Shonibare's acclaimed piece The Wanderer that she was instrumental in purchasing for Bradford Museums and Galleries in 2007.

the AMAZING SPIDER-MAN
By Stan Lee
EEEEEE
SCREAM YOUR HEAD OFF ON YOUR WAY DOWN! I'VE NO INTENTION OF RESCUING YOU.
YOU DON'T NEED TO—
STAN LEE / LARRY LIEBER 8-2
—WHILE THE BLACK WIDOW'S AROUND!
?
© 2019 Marvel Characters, Inc. All Rights Reserved. Distributed by King Features Syndicate

NEWS BRIEFS

Section 144 extended till Apr. 14

The Police, who had imposed Section 144 from Mar. 23 to Mar. 31 midnight in city have extended the same till Apr. 14 midnight. Barring essential services, people cannot gather in groups of more than five at any public space coming under the jurisdiction of the Mysuru City Police. Following the extension of the curfew, people are warned against venturing on to the streets unnecessarily and any violation of the order will invite legal action, according to a press release from the PRO, City Police Commissioner's Office, Mysuru.

Free movement for goods vehicles

ADGP Alok Kumar, who is also the Nodal Officer for essential commodities, has instructed the officials concerned to allow free movement of goods vehicles transporting essential commodities. The instruction to allow free movement of goods vehicles while transporting essential commodities and returning back after unloading has been faxed to Police Commissioners of Mysuru, Bengaluru, Mangaluru, Hubballi-Dharwad, Belagavi and Kalaburagi. Instruction is also given not to ask for any passes from them.

KRS Water Level

(Maximum : 124.80 feet)

Today	104.30 ft
Yesterday	104.35 ft
Inflow	129 cusecs
Outflow	444 cusecs

Kabini Level

(Maximum : 2,284.00 feet)

Today	2,271.50 ft
Inflow	109 cusecs
Outflow	1325 cusecs

Obituary

H. Parvathamma

Mysuru, Apr. 3- H. Parvathamma (81), wife of late H. Puttappa and a resident of Vijayanagar 3rd Stage, passed away yesterday in city. A native of Ballari, she leaves behind her daughter, three sons including Prof. Nagaraj, Department of Geography, University of Mysore and a host of relatives and friends.

Last rites were performed at Chirashantidhama in Gokulam this afternoon.

Blood Banks hit by dwindling stocks, short supply

Mysuru, Apr. 3 (RKB&SD)- As the Coronavirus pandemic is surging ahead, Blood Banks in Mysuru are facing severe shortage of supply with dwindling reserves. Most of the Blood Banks in the city including Jeevadhara and the one in K.R. Hospital are facing similar crisis.

People are locked down in their homes and as such, donors are not coming forward to donate blood which is giving tough time to these Blood Banks and the existing stocks might last only for a few more days.

Blood units can be used for up to 41 days and they cannot be used after this expiry date. Speaking to *Star of Mysore*, **K.R. Hospital Blood Bank Unit Head Dr. B.S. Manjunath** said, "We have only 1,000 units now and we need to utilise them within the month of April. Earlier, we used to collect 40 to 50 units of blood per day, but now, at most 10 to 12 persons are donating their blood. Last Sunday, only 4 persons came forward to donate blood. I would request people to come forward and donate blood."

Till Mar. 10, blood donation camps held in the city used to supply enough volume of blood units to these Blood Banks. Following Coronavirus scare, there are no camps and donors are in no mood of donating blood.

The situation in one of the main Blood Banks in the city, Jeevadhara Blood Bank is no different. **Girish, who heads Jeevadhara,** said, "Now, we have only 22 blood units. We collect all blood groups. If anyone is willing to donate blood, we can provide transportation, bring them here in an ambulance, replenish them with fruit juices after donation and also give certificate for donors," he said.

"We have a list of donors to which the donor's name and phone number will be added and will be called later in case of emergency requirements. Persons up to 65 years of age can donate blood. We collect only 350 ml of blood which is called one unit," Girish added.

In-charge of **St. Joseph's Hospital Blood Bank Unit Ibrahim** said, "We are also facing shortage of blood units. We need donors as we have only seven units of blood here in our Blood Bank."

Barbers offer home service to stay afloat amid Coronavirus

Police, District Administration yet to give permission, passes

Mysuru, Apr. 3 (BCT)- Former Jammu and Kashmir Chief Minister Omar Abdullah recently shared a meme on quarantine which says barbers should be included in essential services unless the society wants more bearded men like him. Omar said the Government must include barbers in essential services so that men are not forced to grow long beard like him when he was in detention.

Except for doctors, maybe no one comes as physically close to their clients as hairdressers and barbers. They literally get in your space. Now amid the Coronavirus pandemic, how can barbers and hairdressers abide by social distancing?

Since the outbreak and lockdown, many of city barbers, personal groomers and hairdressers have lost their regular customers, leaving them and their staff worried about how they will make a living. In an attempt to tide over the crisis, neighbourhood hairdressers and traditional barbers in Mysuru have sought 'pass' from the District Administration and the Police to offer home service to keep their business afloat. There are over 1,200 hairdressing salons in city and each outlet employs an average of two to three persons.

A file photo of a Pourakarmika seen cutting the hair of a person housed at Youth Hostel in Saraswathipuram recently.

A group of barbers have come together to offer home service (which is subject to Police clearance) and they have said that they will charge no extra cost. Barbers and hairdressers have put up a requisition with MLA S.A. Ramdas and the District Administration.

The names and phone numbers of 10 barbers who are willing to do home service in areas including K.R. Mohalla, Hebbal, T.K. Layout, Vidyaranyapuram, J.P. Nagar, Netaji Nagar, Giridharshini Layout, Agrahara, Krishnamurthypuram and Arvindanagar is doing the rounds in social media under the banner "Doorstep Salon Service". The social media post, however, has a rider as it says, "Please use the service only when it is absolutely necessary."

The service, however, will have to be approved by the Police and the District Administration. The barbers who are willing to offer service have stated that they will take all precautionary measures like wearing a mask and ensuring hygiene while serving their customers.

It remains to be seen whether the authorities will allow home service, considering hair cutting as essential service or will they red flag the move.

Home delivery of ration launched

Mysuru district first in State to introduce this initiative

Mysuru, Apr.3 (MTY&DM)- Following the COVID-19 Nationwide lockdown,the district administration, in a bid to ensure that every citizen gets essential commodities, today launched home delivery of ration (for April and May) to households in the district.

MLAs G.T. Devegowda and S.A. Ramdas, MP Pratap Simha and Deputy Commissioner (DC) Abhiram G. Sankar jointly flagged off trucks and other goods vehicles carrying rations at J.K. Grounds this morning, in the absence of District Minister V. Somanna, who reportedly left for Bengaluru early this morning to attend an emergency Cabinet meeting convened by CM B.S. Yediyurappa.

Speaking on the occasion, MLA G.T. Devegowda said that the State Government in order to ensure that no person is left to suffer from hunger, has launched this novel initiative, following the COVID-19 Nationwide lockdown.

Noting that all Antyodaya, Below Poverty Line (BPL) and Above Poverty Line (APL) card holders will be delivered two months' ration (April and May) at their doorstep, he said that persons who do not hold any such cards too will be listed by the authorities after a survey and supplied ration thereafter.

MLA Ramdas said that the home-delivery of rations is being carried out in Mysuru, the first district in the State to launch this novel initiative, in keeping with the intentions of Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Chief Minister B.S. Yediyurappa that no person should starve.

Pointing out that rations for two months is being delivered in advance to households, he urged the people for judicious use of ration. He also warned that legal action will be taken against those indulging in black-marketing of rations. This novel initiative has been launched in order to avoid congestion in front of ration shops and also to prevent people from coming out of their homes.

MP Pratap Simha said that home delivery of ration would cover the entire district. Today the initiative was launched in the city and will cover the entire district in the next five days, he said and urged the people to stay indoors and be safe.

There are 206 Fair Price Shops in the city, covering a total of 1,47,488 card holders (1,705 Antyodaya, 1,29,551 BPL and 16,232 APL card holders), while there are 1,011 Fair Price Shops in other parts of the district, covering 7,32,538 card holders (50,444 Antyodaya, 65,5751 BPL and 26,343 APL card holders).

Every Antyodaya card holder family will get 70kg of rice (35kg per month), while BPL card holders with a single member will get 10kg of rice (5kg a month), BPL card holder family with multiple members will get 10kg of rice for each member and 4kg of Wheat in total (2kg a month), APL Card holder with a single member will get 10kg of rice (5kg per month) and APL card holder family with multiple members will get 20kg of rice (10kg a month).

While the ration is free for Antyodaya and BPL card holders, APL Card holders will be charged Rs.15 per unit.

Chamaraja MLA L. Nagendra,-Food and Civil Supplies Department Joint Director Shivanna and other officials were present.

Traders warned against selling groceries at higher rates

Mysuru, Apr.3 (RK&DM)- With complaints on high prices of essential commodities after the enforcement of lockdown, the Food and Civil Supplies Department has warned traders and grocery shop owners against selling essential items and food grains at a higher price than stipulated.

In a press release, the Department's Joint Director Shivanna said that the Department has received many complaints accusing traders and shopkeepers of selling essential items such as food grains, edible oil, rice, cereals etc., at higher prices, by misusing the lockdown situation.

Asking the traders to make essential items available to the public everyday, Shivanna warned them against hoarding of essential commodities and black marketing.

Cautioning the traders against creating any artificial scarcity of essential items and articles of daily use, he said that a criminal case would be registered against traders and shopkeepers under the Essential Commodities Act, 1955 and Disaster Management Act, 2005, if they were found involved in hoarding and profiteering.

COVID-19: Positive cases in Mysuru crosses 20 mark

China link with Jubilant Generics under scanner

Mysuru, Apr. 3- Mysuru reported two more positive cases for Coronavirus on the night of Apr. 2, taking the total to 21. P 111, a 24-year-old male from Mysuru tested positive. He is the contact of P88 – roommate.

Another person who tested positive is a 22-year-old male from Mysuru who is again the contact of P88 – roommate. Both the patients are being treated at the designated hospital in Mysuru. P88 is a 24-year-old male, resident of Nanjangud, Mysuru. Preliminary investigation indicates that he is working in the same pharmaceutical company as P52. The case is isolated in a designated hospital in Mysuru.

It may be recalled here that the very first COVID-19 case in Mysuru was confirmed on Mar. 21. He is a man in mid-30s, a resident of the city, who had travelled from Dubai to Bengaluru via Goa. He went to K.R. Hospital and got himself admitted on March 20.

The second case was confirmed on Mar. 23. He is a man in his mid-40s from Kerala, who had travelled from Dubai. He arrived in Bengaluru from Dubai on Mar. 22 and took a taxi to Mysuru. He too admitted himself for treatment at K.R. Hospital.

The third case was confirmed on Mar. 26, a 35-year-old man, a resident of Mysuru city, who had no travel history. He is an employee of Nanjangud-based Jubilant Generics. After this case was detected, the number gradually and steadily increased with all of the affected in the following days are from Jubilant Generics.

CHINA LINK UNDER SCANNER

Speaking at a video press conference in Bengaluru, Karnataka's Additional Chief Secretary Jawaid Akhtar said, "We are in the process of identifying how P 52 got infected. We have also taken the swab samples from the packaging material which this pharmaceutical company had received from China."

Akhtar said the swab samples have been sent to the Institute of virology. "As the pharmaceutical company reportedly receives materials from China and as per a tip-off, we are following this procedure to check the facts. I don't think we can conclude on these samples but we are trying to get some leads," he said.

Ramdas launches two Ambulances for dialysis patients and pregnant women

Mysuru, Apr.3 (MTY&DM)- As an addition to the health care system in city, K.R. Constituency MLA S.A. Ramdas on Thursday flagged off two Ambulances dedicated for dialysis patients and pregnant women.

The Ambulances were donated by Aasare Foundation and *Let's Do it, Mysuru*.

Speaking after flagging off the Ambulances in Saraswathipuram here yesterday, Ramdas said that several people had told him about the need for more Ambulances, when he was carrying out COVID-19 awareness programmes, as many dialysis patients were finding it difficult to get Ambulances to reach Hospitals. In this backdrop, Aasare Foundation and *Let's Do it, Mysuru* have jointly donated the Ambulances, he said and appealed the public to make use of the service for free.

Dialysis patients can call Ph: 0821-4001100 for availing this free Ambulance service.

63 from Mysuru quarantined

(Continued from page 1)

Tracing footprint

The District Administration, the Health Department and the Police are also tracing the relatives of Markaz attendees in Mysuru and their Call Detail Records (CDR) have been procured and handed over to the Police. "Primary and secondary contacts are being traced as per the protocol and in case the tests turn positive, even relatives will be put under 12-day quarantine to arrest the spread of the virus," Abhiram Sankar said.

Nakabandi enforced

Assistant Commissioner of Police, Devaraja Subdivision Shashidhar told *SOM* that the Police have enforced nakabandi in certain areas to enforce movement restrictions. Except for essential commodities, movement has been restricted and the main traffic has been diverted in Udayagiri, Ghousianagar, Rajivnagar, Beedi Colony, Aziz Sait Nagar, Gayathripuram, Mandi Mohalla, and N.R. Mohalla. "This is to enforce lockdown and to prevent the spread of virus in case anyone is infected or showing symptoms," the ACP said.

Additional staff has been summoned from Devaraja, Narasimharaja and N.R. Traffic divisions, City Armed Reserve and Home Guards to enforce the nakabandi. "We will work in shifts and will allow only the movement of essential commodities. We have barricaded the roads to prevent unnecessary movement and lathi-wielding Police are guarding the barricades," Shashidhar added.

CM's appeal

Meanwhile, Chief Minister B.S. Yediyurappa has appealed to those who attended the congregation to voluntarily report to the authorities and take medical treatment. "Since those who participated in Markaz religious prayer meeting were infected with Coronavirus, all those who participated in the prayers should inform the officials concerned," the CM appealed.

The authorities also requested anyone who has information about them should alert the Government, the Medical and Health Department of Karnataka.

The State Government said that as part of the screening health workers from the integrated diseases surveillance programme will launch aggressive testing. These workers will start going door-to-door immediately. As part of the testing, everyone within a three kilometre radius (focal area) of the building and in the buffer area (five kilometre radius) will be screened for symptoms. Those who are symptomatic — a cough will do — will be tested.

Must jail those violating lockdown, Centre tells States

No plans to extend countrywide lockdown, clarifies Cabinet Secretary

New Delhi, Apr. 3 (UNI)- Those violating the Coronavirus lockdown or obstructing officials should be sent to jail for one or two years, the Centre yesterday told State governments, directing stern action under existing laws after reports of doctors or health staff being attacked.

Obstructing doctors, health workers or Government staff can land the offender in jail for a year. If such an act leads to someone dying, then the jail term could be for two years. Cabinet Secretary Rajiv Gauba has written to State Governments to take tough action if there is any violation of rules.

Those making false claims for money can be jailed for two years. A false alarm or causing panic may land a person in jail for a year. The Centre's directive followed disturbing visuals of health workers being attacked with stones and chased away in Indore in Madhya Pradesh. The doctors were visiting the area to screen residents after a Coronavirus case was reported from there.

In a video from Karnataka, a community or ASHA health worker was manhandled at a neighbourhood in Bengaluru where a person had tested COVID-19 positive. In Hyderabad, two doctors at a hospital were manhandled after the death of a COVID-19 patient on Wednesday. The attackers were the brothers of the person who died and they were also diagnosed with coronavirus.

States have been told that the lockdown guidelines put out on Mar. 24 clearly mentioned that those violating the rules should face action under the Disaster Management Act, 2005 and legal action under Section 188 of the Indian Penal Code, which involves imprisonment and fines.

India is 10 days into the three-week lockdown ordered by Prime Minister Narendra Modi to break the chain of transmission of the highly contagious Coronavirus, which spreads through person to person contact.

Meanwhile, the Centre said there was no plan to extend the lockdown beyond Apr. 14. Rajiv Gauba dismissed reports that the countrywide COVID-19 lockdown may get extended. "There are rumours and media reports, claiming that the Government will extend the lockdown when it expires. The Cabinet Secretary has denied these reports, and stated that they are baseless," the Press Information Bureau said. "I am surprised to see such reports, there is no such plan of extending the lockdown," said Gauba.

COVID-19 effect: 55 undertrials at Mysuru Jail released temporarily

Mysuru, Apr. 3 (SBD&KS)- In a bid to prevent the spread of Coronavirus and the jail from getting crowded, 55 undertrials at Mysuru Central Prison have been released temporarily on bail.

As the jails are crowded and there being chances of undertrials getting contracted with the virus, undertrials who could be sentenced to less than seven years, the Supreme Court had ordered release of such undertrials following which the undertrials lodged at various jails in the State have been released temporarily.

Mysuru Central Prison has a total of 820 inmates out of which 31 undertrials and 24 convicts were released and there are chances of more undertrials getting released in the coming days, according to the Prison Officers.

District Congress to form COVID-19 Task Force

Launches Mobile Helplines: 82967-69577 & 97413-92799

Mysuru, Apr.3 (RKB&DM)- Jumping into the bandwagon in the fight against the deadly Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19), the Mysuru District Congress has decided to form a COVID-19 Task Force.

The District Congress which met at the Congress Bhavan near the City Railway Station yesterday, resolved to set up a Task Force headed by District Congress President Dr. B.J. Vijaykumar and Hunsur MLA H.P. Manjunath to fight the deadly disease and to set up two District-level Helplines: 82967-69577 and 97413-92799.

It was also decided that all ZP members of the party contribute Rs.10,000 each, TP members Rs.5,000 each, CMC and TMC members Rs.2,500 each to the KPCC relief fund.

Addressing the meeting, District Congress President Dr. B.J. Vijaykumar alleged that the administration had failed in implementing several guidelines issued by the Union and State Governments in order to stop the spread of the Virus. The Congress will bring to the notice of the authorities and the Government on the complaints and suggestions that are received through the Helplines, he added.

A poster on COVID-19 awareness and lockdown regulations was released on the occasion.

District Congress office-bearers Prakash, Shivaprasad, Shivanagappa, Manjunath, Basavaraj Nayak, Pushpavalli and other leaders were present.

Quarantined persons housed in a city lodge shifted to New District Hospital

Former Mayor M.J. Ravikumar and MP Pratap Simha seen assuring the residents of an area that they would shift quarantined persons from city lodge.

Mysuru, Apr. 3 (RK&DM)- Following a snap stir staged by residents of Devaraja Mohalla last night demanding shifting of all persons who were under quarantine for COVID-19 at a lodge on Seebaiah Road, the authorities shifted them to the New District Hospital on KRS Road in two batches this morning.

A total of 18 persons were quarantined by the District administration at Vyshak Lodge on Seebaiah Road in Devaraja Mohalla a couple of days ago. But residents in the vicinity, who feared spread of the deadly Novel Coronavirus, staged a flash stir near the lodge last evening, demanding immediate shifting of the quarantined.

Later, some elected representatives including MP Pratap Simha, MLA L. Nagendra and former Mayor M.J. Ravikumar rushed to the spot and promised that their demand would be met. Accordingly, the Authorities shifted the quarantined to the New District Hospital.

Re-opening of bakeries

MCC does U-turn in 24 hours

Mysuru, Apr. 3- Barely a day after it announced that it would allow bakeries in city to re-open with a set of conditions, the Mysuru City Corporation (MCC) in a U-turn on Thursday said that it had withdrawn the permission for re-opening of bakeries.

MCC Comissioner Gurudatta Hegde during a press conference held at the old MCC Hall on Wednesday had said that the MCC would allow opening of bakeries with a set of regulations and riders, as bakery items such as bread, buns and biscuits come under the list of essential items.

But in a sudden U-turn yesterday, the MCC in a press release said that following a direction from the District Minister and apprehensions that people would gather in large numbers threatening their health and safety in the wake of COVID-19, it had withdrawn the move to allow bakeries to re-open.

As an alternative, the bakery owners can produce items like bread and buns and supply them to super markets, grocery shops and milk diaries, the release said.

Meanwhile, Mysuru Hotel Owners Association President C.Narayana Gowda reacting to the MCC's about turn, said that the Association on Wednesday had circulated the MCC Commissioner's permission for re-opening of bakeries, among the owners of bakeries in the city and district, who are members of the Association, following which some owners had begun preparations for the re-opening.

But now everything seems to have gone waste, with the MCC making a U-turn within 24 hours, he said and added that bakeries too should be allowed to open for at least three days a week, just as in the case of chicken shops and mutton stalls.

Demand for mutton goes down as chicken sale picks up in city

Sheep, goat and chicken meat to be sold on Tuesdays, Fridays and Sundays

Mysuru, Apr. 3 (RK&KS)- Nearly 80 percent of meat shops selling chicken meat opened for business this morning as the Mysuru City Corporation (MCC) revoked the ban on selling chicken yesterday. Chicken meat shops were closed following bird flu scare. Along with chicken meat, mutton will also be sold.

The demand of mutton, however, which was being sold between Rs. 700 and Rs. 850 has come down as the chicken sale began. But though the MCC has fixed the price of mutton to Rs. 500 per kg, it is being sold between Rs. 600 and Rs. 650 now. While skinless chicken is being sold between Rs. 140 and Rs. 160, chicken with skin is sold at Rs. 110 and Rs. 120.

Chicken shops at Hebbal, N.R. Mohalla, Mandi Mohalla, Udayagiri, K.G. Koppal, Mutton Market (Boti Bazaar) received good response.

MCC Commissioner Gurudatta Hegde said that shops selling sheep, goat and chicken meat have been permitted to sell the meat only on Tuesdays, Fridays and Sundays from 6 am to 6 pm.

He further said that strict instructions have been given to meat shop owners to maintain cleanliness and have been asked to mark boxes for the customers to maintain social distancing.

Continuing, the MCC Commissioner said that all meat shop owners have been asked to take precautions to prevent the spread of epidemic diseases and have also been asked to dispose meat waste scientifically.

As the latest lab report confirmed that there was no bird flu scare and any diseases in chicken, permission to sell chicken meat has been given, Gurudatta Hegde said.

The MCC Commissioner has asked the public to call Ph: 0821-2440890 or Mob: 95917-10199, if they come across shops selling meat at exorbitant rates.

It may be recalled that following the death of birds and chicken in the surroundings of Kumbarakoppal and Metagalli on Mar. 16 due to bird flu, the sale of chicken meat was banned in city.

COVID - 19 UPDATE

MYSURU

Persons observed till date	:	2,767
Persons isolated in home for 14 days	:	1,671
Persons isolated in hospital	:	19
Persons completed 14-days isolation	:	1,077
Total samples tested	:	149
Samples found negative	:	128
Total positive cases	:	21

STATE & NATION

Total positive cases in Karnataka	:	124
Total positive cases in India	:	2,479
Death toll so far	:	82

(NOTE: FIGURES TILL 2 PM)

COVID-19 District Emergency Control Room

The Mysuru District Emergency Control Room for COVID-19 (Coronavirus) is functional 24x7 and has a team of operators and medical professionals who are working in shifts. All related queries will be handled professionally and necessary guidance will be provided to all callers, according to Mysuru DC.

Mysuru Helpline numbers
1077 or 0821-2423800
Karnataka Helpline number: 104
Central Helpline number: 011-23978046
Email: ncov2019@gmail.com

State cancels final exams for Classes 7 to 9

Class 10 and 12 exams after Apr. 14

S. Suresh Kumar

Bengaluru, Apr. 3 (UNI)- With the COVID-19 outbreak, Karnataka's Education Department had on Mar. 13 cancelled exams for students of Classes 1 to 7 and postponed the exams for Class 7 to Class 9 students. Similarly, the Class 10 board exams were also postponed. Yesterday S. Suresh Kumar, Primary and Secondary Education Minister took to Facebook and made an announcement about the exams for Classes 7 to 9.

He said, "After discussing with officers from the Education Department, I have decided to cancel exams for Class 7 and Class 8 students. All the schools have to promote them to the next class in the coming academic year. As you all know, we had also decided to conduct Common Evaluation Exams for Class 7 students to prepare them for Class 10 board exams. But it remains cancelled this year."

He further added, "The question papers that were framed for Class 7 Common Evaluation Exams will be given to students when school reopens. In the first week of June, Class 7 students who would have been promoted to Class 8 must appear for this exam. This will help us understand how much of the subjects and lessons they remember from the previous year."

When it comes to Class 10, Suresh Kumar stated that students have to be promoted to Class 10 based on tests already conducted. He said, "For Class 9 students, teachers have already completed formative and summative class exams. On the basis of the marks scored in formative and summative exams, students will be promoted to Class 10. If the students aggregate marks of these two exams are low then the schools have to tell personally tell such students to study and prepare for the exams. Such students will be given exams in the first week of the reopening of the school and promoted to Class 10 once they pass."

Similarly, the Education Department is making preparations to conduct Class 10 board exams after Apr. 14, Suresh Kumar said. "The timetable will be announced after observing the situation of COVID-19 cases in the State. It is the same with a pending exam of English language for Class 12."

Adopt technology to conduct online classes: Govt. Advisor to educational institutions

Bengaluru, Apr. 3- Prof. M.R. Doreswamy, Advisor to the State Government on Education Reforms, has suggested all higher educational institutions to adopt technology to conduct live classes during COVID-19 crisis.

Doreswamy

In a communication released to the media, Doreswamy said, "All private and Government institutions with technological capacity may contextually offer live lecture sessions to their students."

Some of the institutions have already implemented this. However, their number is very small. With abundant technology infrastructure at the majority of the institutions, including Government and aided institutions, which have upgraded technology infrastructure with Central and State Government funds, schemes, adopting technology for educational services is not difficult, he said.

Special responsibilities

Also, Universities and autonomous Colleges have special responsibilities as mentor institutions as they have the plentiful experience, he added.

With the educational institutions being closed, the institutions should effectively handle the situation to maintain the academic calendar. Deviation in this would greatly impact the stakeholders with students losing an academic year and parents and Government being burdened with the cost of education for an additional year, he added.

He requested institutions to make the best use of technology to conduct video lectures. Institutions can also provide student access to digital library and conduct online tests to deliver services to stakeholder at their doorsteps, he added.

Raghulal & Co. Medicals open 24x7

Mysuru, Apr. 3 (KS)- In order to extend its service to the public, Raghulal & Co., Chemists and Druggists on Sayyaji Rao Road in city, will now remain open 24x7.

Following COVID-19 scare, most of the private hospitals are providing only emergency services which is mounting pressure on K.R. Hospital. As some medicines prescribed to the patients are not available at the hospital's pharmacy, patients are wandering in search of medicines. Hence, in such a situation and to provide relief to those in search of medicines, Raghulal & Co. medicals will now be rendering its service 24 hours a day.

Social distancing goes for a toss in city

While public crowd grocery stores, a huge crowd follows elected representatives

Mysuru, Apr. 3 (KS)- Social distancing has gone for a full toss in city, as people crowd various stores and vegetable markets, breaking all rules established to protect their own lives against COVID-19 outbreak.

Despite the health officials pleading with public to maintain social distancing during purchase of groceries and vegetables at various stores and markets, social distancing has gone for a toss in city with the public displaying their carelessness by not maintaining social distancing at stores and markets.

Star of Mysore is receiving numerous calls from concerned readers regarding crowding at grocery stores and markets which may result in the spread of the virus.

A few readers said that even elected representatives were not maintaining social distancing as they are always accompanied by their followers and a host of officials during inspection of various places. Even while supervising disinfectant works in city, there is crowding despite there being Section 144 in force. Does it not apply to them? readers ask.

A few readers have sought tougher laws to be put in place to prevent lockdown violations.

MLA Nagendra distributes rations to needy persons

Mysuru, Apr. 3 (MK&KS)- Extending a helping hand during lockdown in city, Chamaraja MLA L. Nagendra distributed essential commodity kits to the poor and daily wagers yesterday.

Each kit containing 5 kg rice, 1 kg salt, 1 litre cooking oil, 1 kg dal, 1 kg sugar and 6 soaps was distributed at V.V. Mohalla, Hebbal and other areas coming under Chamaraja Constituency. Awareness on the deadly disease and its prevention was also held during the distribution besides asking the residents not to venture out of their houses.

Speaking to *Star of Mysore*, Nagendra said that there were more than 8,000 poor families in Chamaraja Constituency and the essential commodity kits have been distributed to more than 5,000 such families so far. He further said that Agarwal Samaj and Jain community people have joined hands in the distribution process and added that additional 7,000 kits are being prepared for distribution.

Stating that essential commodities would be provided at every doorstep, Nagendra warned of initiating action against residents venturing out of their houses.

Corporator M.U. Subbaiah, Santosh Agarwal, Dr. S.K. Mittal and others were present.

Corona Corona... Daronaaa... Social distancing karlo naaa...

By Shadan Muneer

Social distancing is the key to slow the spread of Coronavirus and to break the chain of transmission. Following the guidelines of the State Government, Mysuru too is under lockdown with most places wearing a deserted look.

Home quarantine, fear, anxiety, boredom and various myths and cures being circulated on social media are adding to the paranoia of the virus. *Star of Mysore* has put together suggestions from professionals from different fields in city to help you make the quarantine period productive and stress-free.

This quiet period can be used as 'reset time' for the perpetually busy and 'always connected' life of professionals. From students to toddlers, from office-goers to working mothers, everyone now has an opportunity to stay at home and spend quality time with family.

Collective reading, revisiting memories

"An idle mind is a devil's workshop." Hence it is recommended to keep yourself engaged in one or the other constructive activity. Revival of some traditional and popular games like carom and chess are great ideas to bond with family, collective reading, revisiting memories by flipping through old photo albums, doable and tangible projects can be encouraged. Staying home and having extra leisure can easily make one overeat so it is very important not to over-indulge and to eat healthy and fresh food, says **Dr. Seetharam, a Health Professional** and also the President of NGO SVYM (Swami Vivekananda Youth Movement).

Dr. Seetharam

He also adds, "I personally think music is a stress-buster and my children play good music which is very soothing and is good time pass for me."

While a lot of awareness is created about physical health and hygiene, mental well-being is as important in these trying times. "Media is quite aggressive in projecting the virus and it is very important to stay calm and avoid unnecessary anxiety. Getting the right information is essential; consult a health professional rather than relying on social media," opines **Dr. Krishna, a leading Psychiatrist.** He further says, "Body and mind needs exercising right now and working out increases energy levels and improves mental health, opt for indoor games and exercises. Fall in love with caring for yourself, your body and your mind. Eat right, utilise this time to heal and rest." He also adds that great emphasis must be given to explain the current situation and hygiene practices to children at home in a calm and playful way to avoid anxiety amongst them.

Dr. Krishna

Keeping children occupied & safe, a challenge

With the closure of schools and absence of summer camps and swimming classes, keeping children occupied and safe is proving to be a great challenge. "Educating children below 10 years and creating awareness is an absolute need of the hour and for pre-school age kids it is even more daunting as they can't comprehend what the buzz is about, but we must instil in them the habit of hand wash hygiene and make them aware that it is not safe to go outside for now," says **Anju Eapen of Buds Pre-school and Daycare.**

Anju Eapen

She further adds, "Cutting down the screen time is a must. Parents must read books with their kids, writing spellings, painting and drawing is also fun. Audio books, creative activities are recommended to keep them occupied. Encourage them in making crafts work that requires brain power, creating a routine like the playtime, read time and screen time will be helpful."

Staggered employment engagement

Some of the public and private sector companies have allowed their employees to work from home based on their access to office.

Arjun Ranga, Managing Director, Cycle Pure Agarbathies, has allowed his employees to work from home.

Arjun Ranga

He says, "Health and well-being of my employees is my priority and we strongly believe in following whatever the local administration recommends. All precautions and safety measures are being taken care of. Work from home is to maintain social distancing and we have categorised employees as to how they commute to work. We have adopted staggered employment engagement at office and running at 50% capacity." He also adds, "If there will be a total shut down I have a lot of things planned to do at home, there are books that I want to read, have many activities to do within the household, pickup on my writing skills and try my hand at cooking which I enjoyed while I stayed abroad. I would like to recommend my employees to take up online short courses on digital media as they will have additional time on hand."

Pramod Shaandilya, CEO, Mysore Aqua, manufacturers of RO packaged drinking water states, "Being at home is honestly difficult for someone like me who is used to being on the move. The revenues are hit and my production has been affected, but the situation is unavoidable so we have to stop worrying about falling economy and losses and focus on containing the spread and saving lives."

Pramod

"The positive side is that I am enjoying my days being at leisure with my immediate family after long, I am getting time to read books and catch up some movies being at home," he adds.

Do something productive

Ananya Graam, working for a research institute, has been working from home because of the virus outbreak. She says, "There are both positives and challenges of working from home. Some people tend to concentrate better at home as there are no colleagues to chat with and for some others it gets difficult to sustain the motivation amidst a lot of distractions like the TV set, kids playing around but work pressure remains the same."

Her time spent travelling and dressing up for work is saved and wishes to utilise this time in some productive work like going back to reading, playing tanpura which was her passion and catching up some movies. She thinks that it is an opportunity for everyone to do something productive.

K.P. Althaf, General Manager of a store at Forum City Centre says, "If the lockdown continues further then we may have to think of some alternative ways to reach out to our customers. Now that I am at home it feels nice to spend time with family. I am getting this opportunity after many years and I am enjoying it. I am listening to a lot of music, getting back in touch with my old friends, relaxing and giving my time and attention to my family. It is also very satisfying to see my children bond with each other rather than spending time with their own friends."

K.P. Althaf

Online classes

Dr. Sridevi Kulenur, Associate Professor at JSS University says, "With Colleges and Universities being closed, academic calendar will be affected and syllabus will remain incomplete. Students from different States who are part of a University are also in a fix because of the travel. In case the lockdown extends then we may have to come up with online assignments so that the students don't lose touch with the subject."

Dr. Sridevi

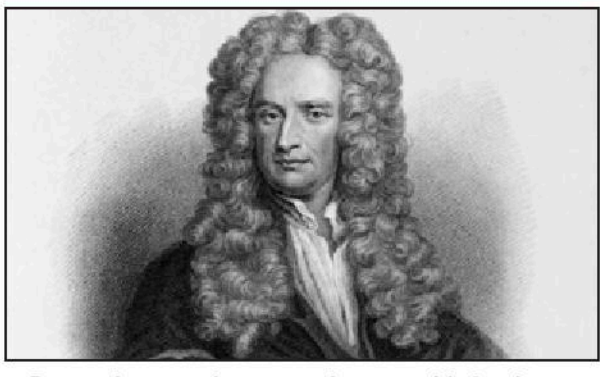
Sridevi, who is also a professional singer, would like to utilise this time by writing lyrics, composing songs and honing her singing skills at own studio. She has also observed that the locals are seen eating street food in groups which is unsafe and hopes that the people take this virus threat seriously and maintain social distancing.

The brighter side – cleanliness

"Empathy, understanding, self-reflection and self-discipline is the need of the hour. As a home-maker and a busy mother of three children I don't step out too often and home quarantine doesn't affect me much but as a positive person I believe this phase of virus breakout shall pass soon," says **Nazneen,** a resident of city.

She further adds, "Looking at the bright side, places and spaces are being fumigated and sanitised, there are lesser people on roads, noise and air pollution levels have gone down. Every cloud has a silver lining, it is the time for us and the mother earth to heal."

Stay at home, be innovative



Remember, staying at our homes with food, water and people you love is a blessing. Don't let panic and stress prevent your attitude of gratitude. When the great plague of London was around in 1665, Cambridge University shut down and Isaac Newton was forced to stay at home and that's when he invented Calculus. He saw an apple fall from a tree that inspired his understanding of Gravity and the Laws of Motion. So you have the option of using your mind and time to be creative.

WORD OF THE DAY

Loon

Pronunciation: LOON.
Meaning: Lout, idler, chiefly Scotland : boy : a crazy person, simpleton.
Origin: There are a number of theories about the origin of loon as it refers to a crazy person, its most common current meaning. One is that it comes from loony, meaning "crazy." But based on currently available evidence, loony is a late 19th-century alteration of lunatic that didn't come into use until decades after the meaning of loon in question. (It's still possible that loony influenced the development and spread of this meaning of loon.) Another guess is that this loon is from the avian loon, inspired either by the bird's maniacal cry or its displays to distract predators, such as skittering over water with its neck crooked. This is certainly possible, and is the origin story favoured by some. But the story our dictionaries favor is a bit more quotidian: the current use of loon developed from earlier uses, primarily in Scottish and other northern dialects of British English, of loon to refer to a lout (an awkward, brutish person) or idler (someone who is idle, lazy, or inactive). While that loon, which is from Middle English loun, never spread to British English more broadly, immigrants from the regions where it was used had a significant influence on American English, and it's not far-fetched to posit that their loon developed into the distinctly American use of the word to refer to daffy people.
Example: "The third subscription ... was Rolling Stone, the best introduction to counter-culture a 10-year-old could ever ask for.... I never understood the political writing, and I distinctly remember thinking Hunter S. Thompson was a loon. But when it came to the articles about musicians, I hung on every word." — Shane Brown, The Quad-City Times

THE ODD WORD

Lallation

Childish speech; mispronunciation of speech sounds.

PHRASE OF THE DAY

La dolce vita

Meaning: The good life, full of pleasure and indulgence.

Origin: This phrase entered the language following the success of the 1960 film La Dolce Vita. This was written and directed by Federico Fellini and starred Marcello Mastroianni, Anita Ekberg and Anouk Aimée. La dolce vita translates from the Italian as 'the sweet life' and this was used as one of the advertising taglines for the film. Of course, this phrase would have been commonplace in Italian-speaking countries prior to 1960 but only became part of English at that date.

QUOTE BOX

The greatest pleasures are only narrowly separated from disgust.

— Marcus Tullius Cicero

RIDDLE THIS

What runs all around a backyard, yet never moves?

Answer: A fence.

SUDOKU

				9		1		
5		2	1					
		3			5	9	4	
4					7		1	
		8				7		
	1		9					6
	5	4	7			3		
					6	8		9
		7		2				

Answer to previous puzzle

5	8	9	6	3	1	4	2	7
3	1	4	7	5	2	6	8	9
2	7	6	9	8	4	5	1	3
7	5	1	2	6	8	9	3	4
6	4	8	5	9	3	1	7	2
9	3	2	4	1	7	8	5	6
1	6	5	3	2	9	7	4	8
4	9	3	8	7	5	2	6	1
8	2	7	1	4	6	3	9	5

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Concept is Sudoku increases from Monday to Sunday.

CROSS WORD

ACROSS:

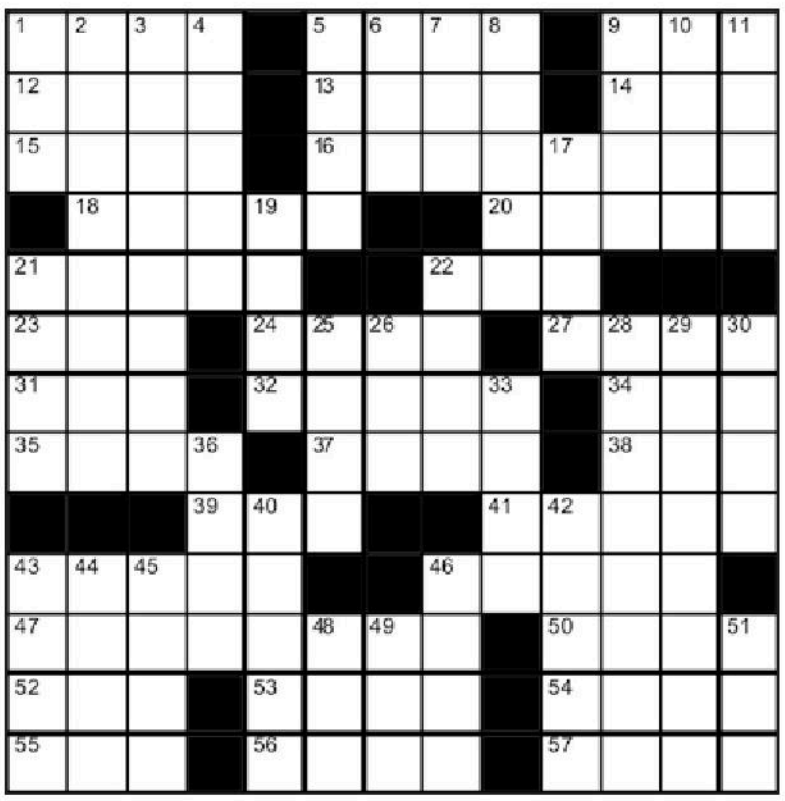
1 Blind as _ __? (1,3)
5 Global Air Traffic Mgmnt.
9 Legal thing
12 Cheeni Kum star
13 Among other things, inter ___
14 Acute Resp. Infection
15 Computer screen symbol
16 Our former PM Dr __ Singh
18 Hard but brittle; fragile
20 Go red with embarrassment
21 Take hold of?
22 Soc. of Auto. Engrs.
23 Mentalist Geller
24 Kerala festival
27 Killer whale
31 Thai language - "Ola" anagram?
32 Replenish (3,2)
34 A long time
35 Tel ser. provider in New Delhi and Mumbai
37 As far as (2,2)
38 Ted Turner's network
39 Botham or Chappell of cricket
41 Ordinary writing
43 Of equal value ? (2,3)
46 Hearty pull
47 In a warlike manner
50 Harmful bacterium
52 Central Technical Operations
53 Ancient kingdom - "male" anagram?
54 Afternoon for the Aussie
55 Male child
56 Mark __ : make a written note of?
57 Wicket-keeper __ Kirmani

YESTERDAY'S ANSWER

B	O	A	Z		A	H	A	B		S	P	A
A	I	D	A		T	E	N	Y	E	A	R	S
S	L	A	M		I	N	T	E	R	N	E	E
S	Y	M	B	O	L	S		L	I	S	T	
			E	D	T		L	A	C	K	E	D
S	A	L	S	A		V	O	W		R	N	A
L	V	I	I		W	I	T		T	I	C	S
E	E	K		A	R	M		M	O	T	E	T
D	R	E	S	S	Y		S	O	L			
	S	N	A	P		T	E	N	S	I	O	N
D	I	E	T	E	T	I	C		T	A	R	A
C	O	S	E	C	A	N	T		O	M	A	R
I	N	S		T	O	Y	S		Y	A	N	K

DOWN

1 Air Transport Indicator
2 Gambling game
3 Miscarriage or failure
4 Part of a military uniform
5 A large umbrella
6 __ __ mode : in this fashion or style (1,2)
7 Metal for a container
8 Deadly African snake
9 Ketu's counterpart in Indian folklore?
10 Periods of history
11 Hyperbolic trigonometric function
17 Bread spread?
19 Attempt or try
21 Coal dust; anthracite coal of poor quality
22 Sooty piece
25 Part of speech
26 Third party program for a smartphone
28 Reformation or restoration?
29 Store, safeguard or protect
30 Actress Bancroft?
33 Church leader
36 Fabricator
40 Formed a spark
42 Indian music forms
43 Automatic Flight Control Sys.
44 Former Yugoslav leader
45 Office boy
46 Song of praise
48 Rating for Chess grandmasters, in short
49 Jurisprudence?
51 Chic or fashionable



CRYPTOQUIP

The Cryptoquip is a substitution cipher in which one letter stands for another. If you think that X equals O, it will equal O throughout the puzzle. Single letters, short words and Words using an apostrophe give you clues to locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error.

EPGPWFEFGU TH FCCTRTFGRK TG RMTEOTGW UNF MPVVFD

SC HXRRFHH; MFPVFDHNTL VFUFDETGFH ZNFUNFD UNF

MPVVFD TH MFPGTGW PWPTGHU UNF DTWNU ZPMM.

TODAY'S CLUE: W EQUALS G

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: The intellect of the wise is like glass; it admits the light of heaven and reflects it.

Unique COVID-19 quarantine facility: Trains turn into Isolation Wards

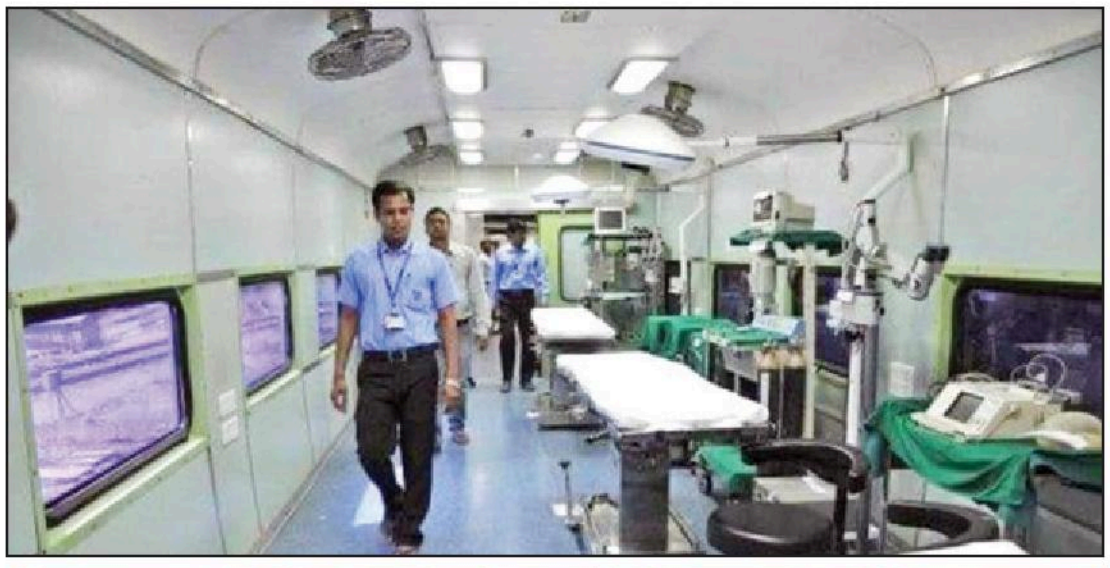
Mysuru Division to convert 138 coaches; one coach likely to be ready by this evening

Mysuru, Apr. 3 (RK&BCT)- In an innovative method to support the State Governments for facilitating Coronavirus quarantine measures, on Mar. 28, Railway Minister Piyush Goyal announced that his team could convert coaches of some trains into Isolation Wards. "Railways will offer clean, sanitised and hygienic surroundings for the patients to comfortably recover," Goyal said.

The Railways' workshops and depots, including the ones in Mysuru, responsible for maintaining coach fleet have come forward to fulfil the requirement of beds and other kinds of furniture for Isolation Wards to provide facilities to quarantine against the outbreak of Coronavirus.

South Western Railway (SWR) will convert 312 coaches into Isolation Wards. While the Hubballi and Mysuru workshops will handle 120 coaches each, Hubballi Depot, Bengaluru Depot, Yesvantpur Depot and Mysuru Depot will handle 18 coaches each.

The sleeper class coaches are being modified as per prototype issued by Railway Board to make them suitable to act as quarantine hubs. These coaches are clean, sanitised and have hygienic surroundings for the patients to comfortably recover.



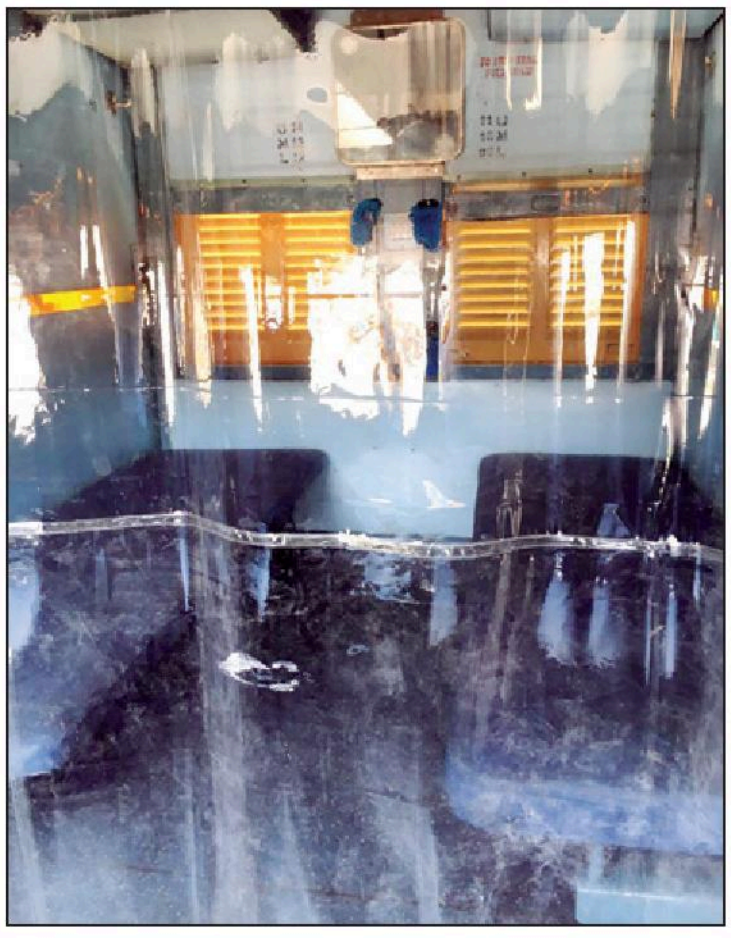
Indian Railways is planning to initially modify 5,000 passenger coaches to meet the requirement of any possible exigency of keeping some COVID-19 patients in isolation as and when required by the Government. In this connection, consultations were held with Armed Forces Medical Services, Medical Department of Railways and Ayushman Bharath. This coach isolation prototype was issued by Railway Board on Mar. 30.

The coaches will be equipped with basic facilities needed as per medical guidelines. Provision is being made for charging points of mobiles and laptops. Mosquito nets with space for paramedics etc., are also being ensured. Each coach will provide eight-berth cabin for isolation facility. Zonal Railways have been advised to prepare coaches as per isolation cabin prototype to meet the needs of the patients by Railway Board.

Among the parameters taken care during conversion are, middle berths, ladders removed to ensure comfort and better space, plastic transparent air curtains for isolation, screening, bottle holders in each compartment for holding medical equipment, first cabin near bathroom provided with two plastic curtains transversely in the aisle so that the entry and exit to the entire eight-berth cabin can be sealed off.

Oxygen cylinder will be provided by the medical department for which suitable clamping arrangement on the side berth of this cabin will be provided and sockets will be provided for operating electrical equipment. Two bathrooms and two toilets will be provided diagonally in the coach and one overhead shower can be operated through roof-mounted handle.

A press release from the Railways said that a total of 138 coaches will get ready in Central Workshops Ashokapuram Mysuru and CDO Office Mysuru and most probably one coach is likely to be ready by today evening.



Calling doctors, staff nurses, pharmacists

South Western Railway Hospital in Mysuru is one of the designated hospitals in city for testing, treatment and isolation of COVID-19 patients. In view of this, 8 doctors, 12 staff nurses and 2 pharmacists, meeting the eligible criteria, will be engaged on contractual basis for a period of three months.

The walk-in-interview will be held in the Office of the Chief Medical Superintendent, South Western Railways, Mysuru, KRS Road, Yadavagiri, from Apr. 3 to Apr. 10 between 3 pm and 6 pm.

Remuneration for doctors will be Rs. 75,000 per month, Rs. 44,900 for staff nurses and Rs. 29,200 per month for pharmacists. Full details of the notification is available on website: http://www.swr.indianrailways.gov.in

Mysuru-based Cycle Pure Agarbathies donates

Rs. 1.08 crore to PM CARES Fund

Over 400 face shields being handed over to District in-charge Minister V. Somanna as DC Abhiram G. Sankar and SP C.B. Ryshyanth look on.

Bengaluru, Apr. 3 - Cycle Pure Agarbathies, from agarbathi to aerospace conglomerate NR Group, has extended support to the country and Government in combating COVID-19 with a donation of Rs.1,08,00,000 to PM's Citizen Assistance and Relief in Emergency Situation (PM CARES) Fund. The brand, which has been in the prayer and worship space from the last 70 years, has initiated a series of funding and donation activities along with an in-depth business continuity plan for its employees to overcome novel Coronavirus.

The Mysuru-based company, which has been actively supporting their employees amidst this nationwide lockdown, also donated Rs. 1 lakh to the volunteer groups in their hometown to provide meals to the migrant labours, Police on duty and homeless people.

The brand has also taken initiative to donate over 400 face shields to the District in-charge Minister V. Somanna ensuring the safety of the health staff, Police and citizens.

In this global crisis, the organisation has also been able to source and secure 5 ventilators for Mysuru through international relations established by Rangsons Technologies.

Speaking about the current situation, Arjun Ranga, Managing Director, Cycle Pure Agarbathies said, "It is a challenging time for all of us across the country, hence it is very important for us to join our hands and support our Government in this battle."

"The Government is doing its best, further, it is our duty to follow the instruction and maintain the decorum to fight this pandemic. Pray for our Corona Warriors, who are risking everything for our safety day in and out. Pray for India," he adds.

Distribution of food supplies to Old Age Home

Srinivasan Services Trust (SST), the social arm of TVS Motor Company, distributed food supplies to Little Sisters of the Poor, an Old Age Home in Mysuru recently as part of their ongoing initiatives towards supporting the community to aid the battle against COVID-19.

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M: 99688-15150

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Ph: 0821-2522888
M: 78990-88444

Gonguras Restaurant, MG Road
M: 99800-60129

Bombay Tiffanys Annexe, DD Urs Road
M: 98451-27511

Pharmacies

Raghulal & Co., Sayyaji Rao Road
Mob: 98451-07907

Sri Kumar Medicals, Kuvempunagar
M: 97418-80668

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M: 94487-74372

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M: 99006-29306

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M: 99458-04995

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M: 98866-99552

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M: 98451-14922

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Pradhan Mantri Jan Aushda Kendra
26/3, Hebbal Main Road, next to HDFC Bank ATM, Lokanayaka Nagar, Metagalli, Mysuru.
M: 9343983533.

Hospitals

Apollo BGS Hospital, Kuvempunagar
Ph: 0821-2566666
0821-2568888

Columbia Asia Bengaluru-Mysuru Road, Mysuru
Ph : 0821-2555000

Narayana Multispeciality Hospital, Devanur Ring Road
M: 95380-52378

Jayadeva Hospital KRS Road, Kumbarakoppal, Mysuru
Ph : 0821-2336000
Ph : 0821-2421500

Clearmedi Radiant Hospital, Vijayanagar 3rd Stage
Ph: 0821-2336666

JSS Hospital, M.G. Road
M: 99804-43489

Brindavan Hospital, Jayalakshmipuram
Ph: 0821-4000782
0821-6626666

Suyog Hospital, Ramakrishna Nagar
Ph: 0821-2533600
M: 97395-55908

Ambulance: 108
- B.G.S Apollo Hospital : 2568888
- Chandrakala Hospital : 4288639
- Gopala Gowda Hospital : 2445037
- Holdsworth Memorial Hospital : 2420102
- Kamakshi Hospital : 2545981

COVID-19 Helpline Numbers: 1077 or 0821-2423800

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